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Title:

Speech at the Opening of Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. New Premises, Pooraka

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, MR. DUNSTAN, AT THE OPENING OF MINERAL-
FIBRE INSULATION PTY. LTD. NEW PREMISES.

POORAKA.

9.5.72.

YOUR WORSHIP (MR. BOWEY), MR. MEAD, MR. RADMAN, LADIES & GENTLEMEN:
THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO OPEN YOUR FINE NEW PREMISES.

THE NEW FACTORY, PLANT AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING REPRESENTS A
\$500,000 INVESTMENT BY YOUR COMPANY AND MARKS THE FIRST STAGE IN
THE COMPLETION OF WHAT WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST MODERN MANUFACTURING
PLANTS OF MINERAL FIBRE INSULATION PRODUCTS IN THE SOUTHERN
HEMISPHERE PRODUCING FOR BOTH COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

I WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN, TOO, THAT THIS EXPANSION PROGRAMME WILL
RESULT IN A DOUBLING OF YOUR WORKFORCE, TO AROUND 80, WITHIN A
FEW YEARS. IT'S SIGNIFICANT ALSO THAT IN DESIGNING THIS NEW PLANT
YOU'VE ROOM FOR FURTHER BUILDING AND THE INSTALLATION OF NEW
EQUIPMENT.

THE NEW COMPANY HAS ALREADY RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL ORDERS AND THE
EXPANSION AND CONSOLIDATION OF ITS MARKETS SEEMS ASSURED.

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MR. RADMAN IS TO BE CONGRATULATED ON THE THOUGHTFUL WAY THE FACTORY
HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN HIGH QUALITY OUTPUT AND TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INSULATION FIELD IN AMERICA
AND EUROPE.

YOU SAID WHEN YOU INVITED ME HERE, SIR, THAT YOURS WAS ONE OF
AUSTRALIA'S FASTEST GROWING INSULATION MANUFACTURING COMPANIES
WHICH MAKES IT VERY APPROPRIATE THAT YOU'RE ESTABLISHED IN SOUTH
AUSTRALIA, BECAUSE WE'RE ONE OF ITS FASTEST GROWING STATES.
AND WE'RE DETERMINED TO KEEP IT THAT WAY. SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS,
IN RECENT TIMES, BEEN TRANSFORMED FROM A PRODUCER LARGELY OF
PRIMARY GOODS TO THE NATION'S THIRD BIGGEST INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.
ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FACTORS IN ACHIEVING THIS TRANSFORMATION
HAS BEEN THE WAY IN WHICH WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP OUR COSTS
SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER THAN ELSEWHERE AND THE WAY IN WHICH WE'VE BEEN
ABLE TO MAKE OUR LOCATION AS THE CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN STATE AN
ADVANTAGE BY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO TRANSPORT COSTS.

THIS HAS BEEN A POLICY OF PROVEN VALUE AND WE ARE NOW SEEKING TO FURTHER IMPROVE IT AND TO SEE WHETHER WE CAN'T BECOME EVEN MORE COMPETITIVE IN RELATION TO THE EASTERN STATES.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CONSISTING OF LEADING INDUSTRIALISTS AND BUSINESSMEN AND WHICH ADVISES THE PREMIER ON DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND OPPORTUNITIES RECENTLY SUGGESTED THAT WE UNDERTAKE A PROPER GOODS MOVEMENT AND TRANSPORTATION STUDY. THIS WOULD BE A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF FREIGHT MOVEMENTS AND BOTTLENECKS AND OF ALL THE RELEVANT COST FACTORS TO INDUSTRY OF VARIOUS KINDS OF TRANSPORT AVAILABLE HERE. IT WOULD COVER THE MOVEMENT OF GOODS INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE AS WELL AS EXPORT FREIGHT RATES. THE INTENTION WOULD BE TO PRODUCE A REPORT WHICH WOULD INDICATE TO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY WHAT ECONOMIES IT COULD MAKE IN TRANSPORTATION COSTS AND HOW THEY COULD BEST MAKE USE OF EXISTING SYSTEMS. IT WOULD ALSO IDENTIFY TO THE GOVERNMENT THE AREAS WHERE IMPROVEMENT WAS NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE AND HOW BEST THAT IMPROVEMENT COULD BE ACHIEVED.

WE RECEIVED THE COUNCIL'S SUGGESTION ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

AS A RESULT WE DECIDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COSTS OF THE STUDY WITH CONTRIBUTIONS ALSO BEING MADE BY INDUSTRY ITSELF. MORE THAN 500 LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO A CROSS SECTION OF INDUSTRY ASKING FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

THE INITIAL RESPONSE, HAS BEEN VERY ENCOURAGING - ONE CHEQUE ALONE WAS FOR \$1,500 - AND WE ARE NOW EXAMINING WHICH CONSULTANTS SHOULD DO THE WORK. WE HOPE THE STUDY COULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN SIX MONTHS. THIS TOGETHER WITH THE "GAPS STUDY" WE HAVE COMMISSIONED TO PINPOINT WHICH PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES WOULD BE BEST SUITED TO US AND WHICH WOULD MOST REPLY US SEEKING THEM. THE BASE DATA PROVIDED BY INVESTIGATIONS SUCH AS THESE TOGETHER WITH THE NEW STRUCTURES - SUCH AS THE INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE CORPORATION AND THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - WORKING THROUGH THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION I BELIEVE PROVIDE US WITH THE MEANS TO IMPROVE THE MOMENTUM OF DEVELOPMENT AND SO PROVIDE GREATER EMPLOYMENT.

OF COURSE, IN ALL THIS WE STILL REMAIN HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO ECONOMIC POLICIES INITIATED AT COMMONWEALTH LEVEL. BUT PROPERLY RESEARCHED AND ADEQUATELY PROMOTED STATE PROGRAMMES CAN DO SOMETHING TO CUSHION THIS.

SIR, I CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR STAFF ON THE OBVIOUSLY CAREFUL PLANNING AND HARD WORK THAT HAVE GONE INTO THE CONCEPTION AND CONSTRUCTION OF THIS PLANT. THE MARKET FOR INSULATION MATERIALS IS AN EXPANDING ONE AND YOUR COMPANY IS PLAINLY IN AN EXCELLENT POSITION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS. IT NOW GIVES ME VERY MUCH PLEASURE OFFICIALLY TO DECLARE IT OPEN.

11-00 (POORAKA)

9/5/72

GRAHAM WITHERS & ASSOCIATES PTY. LTD.

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May 4, 1972.

Mr. K. Bertram,
Personal Secretary to the Premier,
Premier's Department,
11th Floor, c/- State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square,
ADELAIDE. S.A. 5000

Dear Mr. Bertram,

Enclosed is background information and the programme for the official opening of the new premises for Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,



Graham J. Withers.
Managing Director.

GW:EW
Encl: 3

PROGRAMME FOR OPENING
MINERAL-FIBRE INSULATION PTY. LTD.

Tuesday, May 9, 11:00 a.m.

- 1) Welcome to Guests by Managing Director, Mr. Ivan Radman, who will also introduce the Chairman of Insul-Fibre Holdings Ltd., Mr. Jack Mead.
- 2) Mr. Mead to introduce the Premier, Mr. Dunstan.
- 3) Premier's speech and unveiling of plaque.
- 4) Vote of thanks and short speech by Mr. Radman.
- 5) Tour of plant by the Premier and official party.

Refreshments.

Directions to plant.

The plant is situated at the end of Research Road, Pooraka.

Research Road is on the right hand side, travelling from Adelaide on the Main North Road to Elizabeth: It is almost opposite the entrance road to the Levels Institute of Technology and is adjacent to the Hollostone brick plant.

Official Party.

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan.

Mr. Jack Mead, Chairman of Insul-Fibre Holdings Ltd.

Mr. Ivan Radman, Managing Director.

Mr. H.L. Bowey J.P., Lord Mayor of Salisbury.

MINERAL-FIBRE INSULATION PTY. LTD.
NEW PLANT AT RESEARCH ROAD, POORAKA

balanced.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. is one of Australia's fastest growing insulation manufacturing companies.

The new premises built at a cost of \$500,000, comprise a modern factory and plant and administration building.

Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. is a newly formed subsidiary of Insul-Fibre Holdings Ltd.

The Premier will unveil a comemorative plaque and will set in operation the large processing machinery complex.

The new factory and storage facilities, cover an area of more than 30,000 sq. ft. while the administration building has an area of 3,600 sq. ft.

The new plant is the first stage in what will be one of the most modern manufacturing plants of mineral fibre insulation products in the Southern Hemisphere.

The plant will manufacture mineral fibre insulation for both domestic and commercial use.

Over 40 people will be employed at the factory. This number is expected to be doubled within a few years.

A modern amenities section with facilities for male and female employees has also been established.

The factory and processing plant was designed to handle more than 72,000 sq. ft. of insulation material per day.

Stringent manufacturing standards have been placed on all equipment to maintain a high quality product.

Besides the manufacturing of mineral fibre insulation, the company has a qualified team which also installs insulation material in the commercial and domestic fields.

At present the new plant warehouse and administration building covers approximately half the site. Provision has been made for the installation of further buildings, and more sophisticated mechanical equipment to meet future expansion.

The new company has already received large order contracts, production of which will begin immediately. This indicates the confidence in the use of mineral fibre insulation,

The managing director of Mineral-Fibre Insulation, Mr. I. Radman, said his company had great confidence in the future markets for the use of mineral fibre insulation and the total concept of insulation.

It was for this reason that the new plant had been established to meet this demand.

Mineral fibre insulation will be used in a number of areas including refrigeration, boilers, and motor vehicles as well as in buildings.

The development of the new plant is the result of Mr. Radman's wide knowledge of both the American and European methods of production.

Recently he made an overseas study tour to investigate the manufacture of mineral fibre insulation.

His tour was one of several he has made since the formation of Insul-Fibre Pty. Ltd. in 1965.

Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. was formed earlier this year.

The original operating company for the group was Insul-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. which manufactured and installed Insul fibre home insulation and insul Kote sprayed fibre insulation. This insulation is made from a wood pulp ingredient at the company's plant at Ridgehaven.

The manufacturing process of mineral fibre insulation is different in that it is a type of mineral wool.

It is formed by extruding molten rock or slag (heated to 2660°F) with air and steam, into a fibrous form.

The fibres from this process are spun which improves overall insulation qualities.

The finished product can be produced as a blanket or smaller sections known as batts. Density of the material can also be varied according to the required application.

The mineral fibre insulation has many distinct advantages in that it does not conduct electricity, insulates sound, it is odourless and is vermin resistant and has fire retardent qualities.

It can also be installed by a pouring or blowing method. This is ideal for new and existing buildings.

Sections of the processing system and machinery have been installed under licence to the U.S.

Last month a leading authority on the manufacture of mineral fibre insulation visited the new plant in an advisory capacity and to commission the new machinery.

HISTORY.

Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. was formed earlier this year. It is a subsidiary of Insul-Fibre Holdings Ltd., a public company formed in June 1970.

The basis for this company, Insul-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. was formed by Mr. Radman in 1965.

Mr. Radman.

Mr. Ivan Radman, 44, is managing director of Insul-Fibre Holdings Ltd.

He established Insul-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd. in 1965 to produce and install a type of natural fibre insulation for which he obtained licences during a visit to the U.S. in 1964.

He came to Australia in 1949 as an emigrant from Yugoslavia. He spent his early years in Australia on a variety of jobs mainly in building and real estate.

He even became a wool merchant, when he became, as far as he can check, the first immigrant wool classer in South Australia.

After spending some time in the U.S. he returned to Australia and consequently established the founding company of Mineral-Fibre Insulation Pty. Ltd.

Among other interests, he has a marble quarry at Angaston.

Marble from this quarry was used on the facing for the State Government building in Victoria Square.

He also conceived the idea behind the conglomerate slabs now used extensively in State school buildings.